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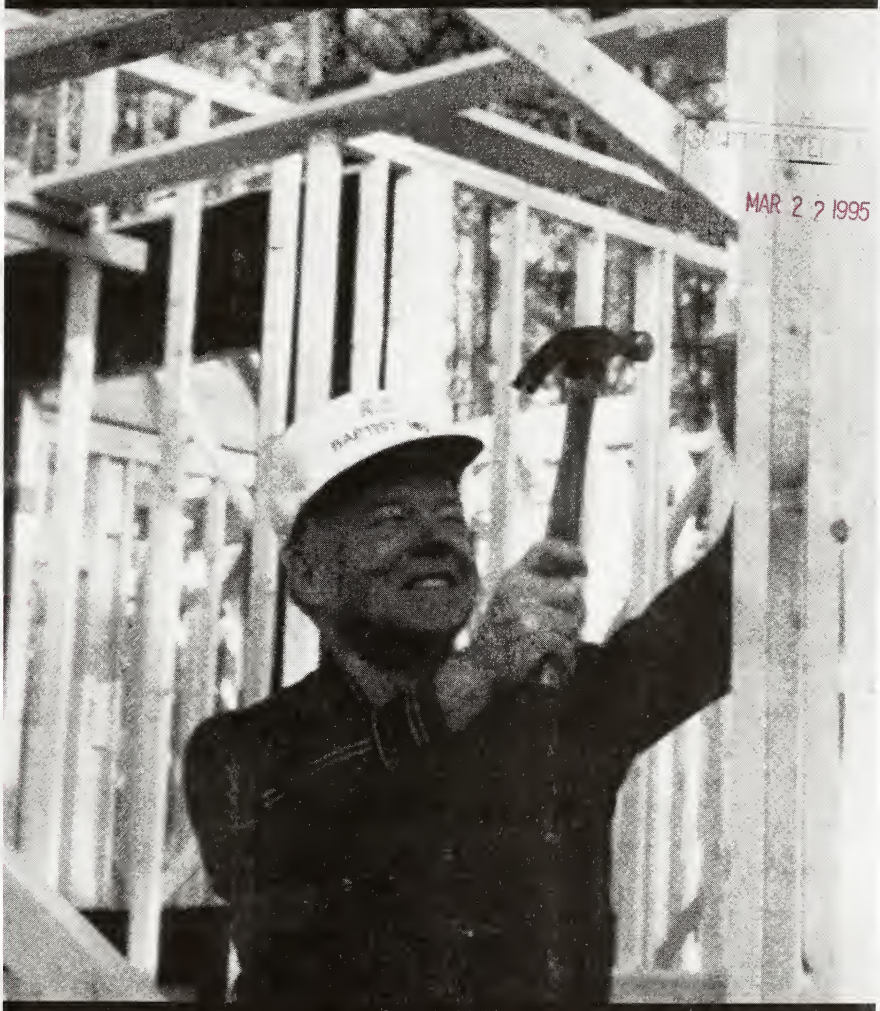
MEN ON MISSION

North Carolina Baptist Men and Boys reaching the world for Christ



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Spring 1995

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MEN ON MISSION

On The Cover

Baptist men and women are using the talents, gifts, and abilities that they have to make a difference for Christ in the lives of people across N.C. and around the world.

N.C. Baptist Men Staff

Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Jimmy Huffman, Lonnie Reynolds, Lynn Tharrington, Lee Sadler, Fatima Roma, Mary Ann Murphy

Men On Mission is funded by the Cooperative Program and the N.C. Missions Offering. Men On Mission is published by Public Relations & Communication Services, Baptist State Convention.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Making God's Kingdom Visible

RICHARD BRUNSON, NCBM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

If a man is rich and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against his brother, how can he claim that he has love for God in his heart? My children! Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action. (I John 3:17–18)

Someone once defined missions as "Making God's invisible kingdom visible." Making God's kingdom visible by serving in Christ's spirit, sharing God's love in word and deed, and making a difference for Christ in a lost and hurting world is true love showing itself in action.

I am pleased to report that many N.C. Baptist men and women have been making a difference for Christ this year through N.C. Baptist Men.

Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action.

Hundreds of volunteers have traveled to Ukraine and Prague to help build churches and a seminary. Scores of other N.C. Baptists handed out Bibles, food, medicine, and hope to Rwandan orphans in Zaire, hungry people in Haiti, and God's children in isolated, remote villages in northern India and many other places.

N.C. Baptists dug deeply into their pockets to help in places where they couldn't go. N.C. Baptists sent 380,000 pounds of corn seed to Croatia. RAs, GAs, and Baptist men and women raised over $40,000 to provide 400 wood stoves for cooking and heating to families in war-torn Bosnia.

Thousands of volunteers put on their nail aprons and worked to help build eight mission churches in North Carolina. An army of other volunteers worked on needed projects at North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell) and Mundo Vista as well as in south Florida and New York.

Hundreds of others have volunteered on the medical/dental bus and worked in migrant camps and street shelters across our state to meet both physical and spiritual needs.

Well over a thousand volunteers helped to rebuild broken homes and broken lives after tornadoes in North and South Carolina and the south Georgia floods. Over 55,000 meals were provided last year through our disaster relief ministry.

Other N.C. Baptists have been making a difference for Christ through lay renewals, lay revivals, prison ministry, agricultural missions, and in many other ways.

I am very thankful for what has been accomplished this past year by our staff and Baptist men and women across our state. They have helped make God's kingdom visible.

Richard Brunson

Relationships

MAURICE COOK, NCBM PRESIDENT

December was a month of emotional "ups and downs" for me. The "downs" were the sudden death of a sister and the deaths of two special friends of many years. The "up", of course, was Christmas and the many uplifting ramifications of that wonderful season. All of these events have caused me to reflect more than usual upon personal relationships and their meaning and value on life's pilgrimage.

The passing of loved ones reminds me of the brevity of life. This is especially true with the loss of a family member. In the case of my sister, my mind races back to earlier days and the brother-sister interactions within our large family. Fortunately, most of those memories are pleasant. Childhood and adolescence seemed like an eternity to us at that time when we wanted so much to grow up. But in retrospect, the years then and now pass so quickly. We can identify with Job and his lament, "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle. . . O remember that my life is wind. . ." (Job 7:6–7).

Death of friends is a grim signal of the finality of interpersonal relationships as we have known them in the human experience. There is no tomorrow to meet for coffee, write the note, or make the telephone call I wanted to do and fully intended to do. Turning again to our ancient friend Job, "Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth?. . ."(Job 7:1). Human greatness fades as a consequence of the finite perspective. King David recognized this as he came to the end of his long, notable life,

"Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am." (Psalm 39:4).

Friendship is something we take too much for granted until it is gone. I like Samuel Taylor Coleridge's words: "Friendship is a sheltering tree . . ." How true! Just as a large shade tree provides rest, refreshment, and protection, a true friend provides understanding, encouragement, and security. As I contemplate the Lord's gracious provision of sheltering trees—true friends—in my life, I do some self-examination and ask if my branches are providing shelter and shade to anyone.

As I become more aware of my own late stage of life, I realize I must be about those things that characterize real friendship. Although I am hesitant to make New Year's resolutions, there are some things I yearn to do this year and the remaining years of my life. For example, I shall strive to . . .

"...a true friend provides understanding, encouragement, and security."

- *tell friends how I feel about them now, not later*
- *find the time to keep a promise*
- *praise rather than find fault*
- *listen more and talk less*
- *pray more, both in quantity and quality*
- *enjoy what is, and not fret about the past*

Perhaps you see something there as a helpful reminder?

The brevity and finality of life cause one to seek a relationship that endures. My, was Christmas timely! It refreshed me with its proclamation of a divine-human relationship that has eternal dimensions. The birth of Jesus was God's provision of an abiding relationship that lasts forever! And Easter is the crowning confirmation of that!! What a Friend we have in Jesus!!!

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

. . .But thanks be to God, who gave us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 15:55;57).

I am delighted that relationships are important in our large North Carolina Baptist Men family. Birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions are remembered, but even more distinctive are your constant thoughtfulness, kindness and friendliness. And if there is an illness, death, or crisis—the support is immediate and caring! Your actions are authentic as a result of your enduring relationship with the Lord Jesus. But let us not forget our call to share that enduring relationship with a lost and hurting world.

As I reflect on that enduring relationship we enjoy, I am reminded of that old hymn which characterizes our lives in the here and now and also expresses our future eternal hope. We need to sing it—and affirm it—more:

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in human love;

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;

But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again."

Robert Stroup Named 'Layman Of The Year'

Robert Stroup, Spruce Pine, was named "Layman of the Year" at this year's North Carolina Baptist Men's Convention. Robert has been involved in disaster relief, homeland projects, and overseas mission projects. Robert also serves as a Baptist Men's specialist and is a former trustee for the SBC Brotherhood Commission.

Robert was instrumental in setting up the Ukraine and Prague Partnerships. He was also very involved in the Togo and Poland Partnerships as well as numerous other overseas mission trips.

We are thankful for Robert and Ruby Stroup and all that they have done for missions and North Carolina Baptist Men.

Richard Brunson, executive director, NCBM (left) presented a plaque to Robert Stroup. Standing with Robert is his wife Ruby.

Hats,T-shirts Are Now Available

A new shipment of hats, with the embroidered NCBM Serve in Christ's Spirit logo, has just arrived. The colors available are: black, teal, forest green, and burgundy, The cost is $7 each plus $2 shipping per order.

Also available are T-shirts with the NCBM logo at a cost of $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes are: adult medium, adult large, adult X-large, adult XX-large.

In addition, new RA (grades 1-6) T-shirts and, for the first time, Challengers (grades 7–12) T-shirts are available at a cost of $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes are: Boys 14–16, Adult Small, Adult Medium, Adult Large, Adult X-Large.

Please use the form on the back page to place your order.

1995 North Carolina Baptist Men Elect Officers

Re-elected president of Baptist Men was Maurice Cook, Raleigh (left). Vice presidents include (l to r) Skip Greene, Boone, West; Harry Harkey, Winston-Salem, Piedmont; and Raymond Earp, Beaufort, East.

Other officers are::

Ed Couch, Morrisville – State Prayer Support Coordinator
Bob Mizelle, Windsor – State Overseas Missions Coordinator
Johnny Henderson, Seagrove – State Correctional Missions Coordinator
Dennie Crowder, Charlotte – State Family Foundations Coordinator
Doug Rollins, Wilkesboro – Region 7 Director
Gene Kirby, Morganton – Region 8 Director
Robert Stroup, Spruce Pine – Region 9 Director
James Smith, Gates – Region 1 Director
Ernie Stines, Canton – At Large Board Member
Doug Jones, Edenton – At Large Board Member
Paul Gough, Yadkinville – At Large Board Member

Baptist News On Audio Cassette Is Available Free

UPCLOSE, an audio cassette news program currently sent free to all interested Baptist ministers and other church leaders, will also be available free to N.C. Baptist laypeople, beginning with the May, 1995 issue.

UPCLOSE
NEWS AND OPINIONS
FOR NORTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS

UPCLOSE, "a magazine for your ears," includes current Baptist news, special mission and ministry stories, a bulletin board of dates and an entertaining antedote each month by the late Grady Nutt, well-known Baptist humorist.

UPCLOSE for lay people will highlight dates of interest to Baptist Men and others involved in church mission and ministry programs.

At present, there are around 500 subscribers across the state.

The monthly audio cassette is similar in format to a radio newscast. You can listen to UPCLOSE on your car audio cassette player or use it as part of a church mission meeting.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of UPCLOSE, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

1994 Summary Of Volunteer Involvement

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

VOLUNTEERS

Three hundred and eight volunteers (308) traveled to the following countries:

Ukraine — 130
Prague, Czech Republic — 100
Zaire with the Rwandan Refugees — 20
India — 10
St. Lucia — 12
Haiti — 30
Puerto Rico — 6

CORN FOR CROATIA PROJECT

Contributions totaling over $25,000 received.

STOVES FOR BOSNIA

Contributions totaling over $40,000 received.

HOMELAND PROJECTS

MISSION CHURCHES

- NCBM participated in the building of eight (8) churches:
- Korean First, Raleigh
- Hispanic Mission, Kernersville
- Hispanic Mission, Clinton
- Hispanic Mission, Pittsboro
- Maplewood Church, Yadkinville
- Charlotte Chinese Church, Charlotte
- Flat River Hispanic Mission, Oxford
- Carmel Church, Salisbury

OTHER PROJECTS

North Carolina Baptist Men also contributed to these building projects:

- N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell) Renovation, Oak Island
- Tar Heel Lodge, Ridgecrest
- Camp Mundo Vista Renovation, Asheboro
- Hurricane Andrew Recovery Effort, Florida
- Church Construction, South Dakota
- New York Partnership, New York

LAY RENEWAL WEEKENDS

Twenty-five (25) churches hosted Renewal Weekends.

LAY REVIVALS

Twenty-three (23) churches hosted Revival Weekends.

MEDICAL BUS MINISTRY

The medical bus hit the road 94 days. Other statistics are being compiled.

DISASTER RELIEF

- Cleveland County tornadoes:
  4,900 meals served
  200 clean-up volunteers.
- South Georgia flooding:
  50,000 meals served
  over 300 clean-up volunteers.
- Lexington, S.C. tornadoes:
  300 N.C. clean-up and recovery volunteers responded.
- Western North Carolina flooding:
  Recovery volunteers assisted victims.

PRAYER SUPPORT

A conference was held this year at N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell), Oak Island. The session featured prayer seminars and worship.

CORRECTIONAL MINISTRY

Fifty-three (53) boys with a parent in prison attended Camp Caraway this summer. N.C. Baptists provided scholarships and transportation to make this possible.

RESORT MINISTRY

N.C. Baptist Men across the state sponsored Easter, Memorial Day, and Fourth of July holiday rest stop ministries.

Mission Statement

The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help N.C. churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- *enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities*
- *encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries*
- *educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities*
- *teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions*
- *lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.*

CAMPS

- Over 1,300 boys attended Camp Caraway this summer.
- Over 200 boys attended the first State Lad/Crusader Camporee.
- N.C. Baptist Men sponsored an RA camp (Camp Hope) for inner-city kids in Atlanta, Ga. during July.
- Almost 1,000 people participated in World Missions Week at N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell), Oak Island.

SPORTS MISSIONS

A sports camp for inner-city kids in Norfolk, Va. introduced Christ and the church as a source of love and caring.

An HSBYM Sports Evangelism team and their coaches flew to St. Lucia Island, West Indies to use basketball as a means to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

'Feed My Children' Is Wilson County Woman's Mission

Ag Missions! Who me? Here is a story about a lady who does Ag Missions from her own backyard.

I met her about a year ago. She is a 54-year old grandmother living in an old, rented farmhouse in Wilson County with her husband and grandson. Her house is one of those that looks as if it should be replaced with a Habitat House. She had to take disability retirement, due to heart problems, from the school system where she worked as a cafeteria worker. Her name is Mattie Brown and she has a mission.

Miss Mattie, as she is called, is determined to complete the mission that God has given her. The mission is to feed the hungry of the city of Wilson. "God called me to do this," she says. "I saw small children scrounging for food in a dumpster one day and stopped to ask what they were doing. Their reply was that they were hungry." Miss Mattie's 12-year old grandson was with her then and immediately offered his meager piggy bank of coins for her to use to buy food for those children.

Miss Mattie told me that God audibly told her in a dream to "feed my children." "I couldn't ignore that command from God. So I started looking for ways to feed them. People told me that it was impossible, that my health was not good enough. But they were wrong. God told me to do it." So, nearly a year ago, the Mattie Brown Food Kitchen opened. She serves 400 to 600 lunches every Saturday and Sunday at an Elks Lodge in downtown Wilson.

Food is donated from two churches, individuals, and several businesses. Miss Mattie cooks from her house, brings the food downtown, and serves heaping helpings of food, understanding and love. Prayers are offered and the gospel is preached. In addition, community and individual development programs are explained.

Why does Miss Mattie serve only on weekends? "Because the children are in school during the week and they get good food there. The adults can go to Hope Station or another downtown food kitchen that is open during the week. But on the weekends, there is nothing for them," she said.

Does this work make a difference? Of course it does! Miss Mattie is responding to the command of God. The gospel is being preached and needs are being met. Ask Miss Mattie if she is involved in Ag Missions and she would probably say that she doesn't know what that means. But a major emphasis of Ag Missions is hunger relief, in Somalia, South America, and in downtown Wilson. Are you being called by God to "feed my children?" Aren't we all?

Don Pittman
State Ag Missions Coordinator
4719 River Road
Wilson, NC 27893
(919) 243-7328

Mark Your Calendars NOW!

Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day Saturday, July 29

Something for everyone! More details in next issue.

CORRECTIONAL MISSIONS

Conference Set For May 6 In High Point

People involved in correctional missions and those interested in finding out more about this ministry are invited to "Correctional Missions: Exploring the Possibilities," beginning at 10:00 a.m., May 6 at First Church, High Point and concluding by 3:00 p.m. Speakers include Richard Payne, N.C. director of Prison Fellowship and Mike Roark, state director of Justice Fellowship. The cost is only $10 per person and includes lunch. Pre-registration is necessary to plan for the meal.

Conference seminars are designed to help volunteers become more effective in their ministry and allow others to explore the possibilities of becoming involved in correctional missions. Topics to be discussed include: If Not Christians, Then Who? A Cooperative Effort; Taking the Lead — Influencing the Correctional Climate; and Getting Started or Where Do I Go From Here?

Many men in prison have never had accepting, positive male role models in their lives. Correctional missions offers an opportunity to influence a person's life and introduce them to Christ. Share and learn from each other's experiences in a ministry that impacts individuals and communities across our state.

For more information and registration check the appropriate item on the back page.

Johnny Henderson
State Correctional Ministry Coordinator
PO Box 499
Seagrove, NC 27041
(910) 873-7995

DISASTER RELIEF

Expo, Celebration To Be Held April 22

If you're interested in disaster relief ministry, then join us for the Disaster Relief Expo: Proclaiming Our Heritage on April 22 at the Old Historic Train Station in Salisbury. A program on Saturday morning will examine North Carolina's 10 years of active response to disasters in our country and abroad. All types of disaster equipment — including a flying kitchen — will be displayed. A training session will take place in the afternoon.

Speakers will include Roy Smith, executive director-treasurer, Baptist State Convention of N.C.. Registration is $10 for the meal and program; $20 for the meal, program, and training. Limited lodging is available 45 minutes away for $21.50 (includes breakfast) at Camp Caraway in Asheboro. Due to the Furniture Mart in High Point and the National Sports Writers Meeting in Salisbury, hotel accommodations will be limited. You may make arrangements to stay at Camp Caraway through N.C. Baptist Men. Deadline for registration is April 7.

It's amazing to see the innovative approaches developed over the years for ministering to people following a natural disaster. God has allowed us to make lasting impressions on people through disaster relief ministry. Come help us celebrate and see how it's done!

For more information and registration check the appropriate item on the back page.

Paul Wilson
State Disaster Relief Coordinator
PO Box 2763
Salisbury, NC 28145
(704) 637-6735

PRAYER SUPPORT

Prayer Retreats Held At Caswell

The members of the Prayer Committee for N.C. Baptist Men were excited over the results of the prayer retreat at the N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell) in October. Forty-two registered for the conference.

Four things highlighed the conference: meaningful sessions dealing with prayer, excellent speakers, beautiful and inspirational music, and wonderful fellowship.

All of the participants shared that they were blessed. The evaluations contained personal testimonies of the spiritual blessings received with a request that the prayer retreat be repeated this coming fall.

Various people shared how the prayer retreat strengthened and deepened their prayer life. Five women left the Friday evening session and prayed until midnight. The ladies felt God leading them to return to their church and begin a prayer ministry.

A weekend prayer retreat for 44 BSU students from Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Louisville was also conducted. They are excited about praying for revival on their campus.

In addition, a group of students at Gardner-Webb University is planning a weekend prayer retreat to pray for revival on college campuses.

It was a joy to see how God worked through the prayer committee in planning inspirational retreats.

Buddy Freeman,
Outgoing State Prayer Support Coordinator
Ed Couch,
Incoming State Prayer Support Coordinator
Route 1 Box 313
Morrisville, NC 27560
(919) 544-7014

SPORTS IN MISSIONS

Opportunities For Missions Listed

North Carolina Baptist Men's newest mission ministry is off and running with the following activities planned for spring and summer:

Challengers Overseas Basketball Team:

Tryouts and team selection will be held at First Church, Hickory for a return trip to St. Vincent, West Indies. Team practices will be held on weekends throughout the spring months in preparation for the trip on July 1–11. This will be the first return trip and will involve members in clinics for players and coaches, games, outreach, and sports evangelism.

Wilmington Basketball Camp:

Men and women's coaches and college students are needed to lead a week of camp in the inner-city of Wilmington, N.C. June 25–30.

Deadline to apply is May 1, 1995. Anyone 18 years or older (limited to eight persons) who has an interest in basketball and missions can apply. Cost is $150 per person (includes food and lodging).

Team members will lead in basketball instruction, and share testimonies and devotions.

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

Orlando Sports Camp:

This camp will be held outside of Disney World for Disney employees, July 9–16. The sports of soccer, basketball, volleyball, softball, and baseball will be used to relate the Christian faith to young people. Deadline to apply is May 1, 1995.

The team will consist of young men in grades 9–12 (limited to five Challengers and five adults). Cost is $650 per person (includes food, lodging, transportation, and one day at a Disney World theme park.)

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

'First ever' Sports Expo:

A day devoted to sports, clinics, booths, speakers, and activities is planned for this fall. Bring your sons and daughters to be a part of the exciting venture in sports and missions.

The first overseas basketball team reunion was held February 4–5 in conjunction with the annual North Carolina Baptist Men's Convention. There was a great response from the former basketball missionaries of the first four teams. The members were recognized at the evening's activities and had a special time together at First Church, Cary.

Get a 'Kick' Out Of Missions

North Carolina Baptist Men is sponsoring, for the first time, an overseas soccer team. Sports in Missions received a request from Tobago, South America, to bring a soccer team to do sports evangelism. This trip would be a great opportunity for young men who play soccer to compete against international competition and also exercise their Christian faith.

The trip is for young men in grades 10–12. The dates are July 8–15. The cost is $1,200 per person, which includes air fare, meals, lodging, and uniforms. Tryouts will be held April 22. To receive an application, check the appropriate item on the back page or contact Jimmy Huffman at (800) 395–5102.

Gary Bowne
State Sports in Missions Coordinator
237 32nd Avenue, NW
Hickory, NC 28601
(704) 327–6282

LAY RENEWAL

Lay Renewal Gathering Set For May 5–6 At Caraway

Make plans now to attend the Annual Statewide Lay Renewal Gathering at Caraway Conference Center in Asheboro on May 5 & 6. It's a time of inspiration, fun, music, fellowship, sharing and praise. Sessions include instruction in lay renewal areas such as leading small groups, giving testimonies, weekend music, resource leaders, children and youth workers, and more! A special session is designed for pastors and church leaders interested in having a Renewal weekend in their church.

Key speaker for the weekend is Bill Clemmons, professor at American Baptist Seminary. Another highlight of the Lay Renewal Gathering is the group, "The Missionaries," an award-winning quartet who will provide special music. The cost of the conference is $35 per person.

Please use the form on the back page for registration. Pre-registration is necessary and rooms fill up quickly so respond soon. Be a part of an exciting movement in our churches and experience how God is at work through Renewal.

Cameron Norris
State Lay Renewal Coordinator
3471 Bassett St., SW
Shallotte, NC 28459
(910) 754-4839

Young Robert's blood pressure went so high his parents Ruth and Robert Dennis feared a heart attack or stroke was imminent.

Could Hardly Put Food on Table

Mother's Day Offering Turns Despair to Joy

Robert Dennis woke one day with his eyes swollen shut.

He almost didn't wake up the next morning.

Robert's mother, Ruth, thought he was allergic to the new laundry detergent, so she threw it out and rewashed everything.

By the next morning his face was so swollen she was scared, so she took him to a local doctor who, after blood work, sent him immediately to Baptist Hospital.

Robert's infection was the trigger event that revealed a severe kidney disease, nephrotic syndrome.

Robert's kidneys, the two 4 1/2 inch bean-shaped organs that excrete liquid waste, were filled with pin holes. So the waste, instead of going out through his bladder and ureters like it is supposed to, was exiting into his blood stream.

His body was poisoning him to death.

Robert, now age 4, spent from October 1993 to Jan. 11, 1994 in Baptist Hospital, where his potassium dropped and his blood pressure rose to life threatening levels. He was on medication strong enough to cause internal bleeding, but he still would gain as much as eight pounds of fluid in just two hours.

In January, he took a "miraculous" turn, according to his doctor. Ruth credits the prayers of her family, because Robert still has the disease and always will. But his kidneys suddenly developed the capacity to function.

His disease is chronic and he has a 50 percent chance of passing it to his children. His parents expect potential flare-ups, but today, Robert is at home, throwing his body at nature again, getting his bruises honestly, from tree limbs, hard ground and skateboards.

> *"I handed the letter to my husband and after he read it, we just fell into each other's arms."*
>
> – Ruth Dennis

But his hospitalization was costly. His parents couldn't work regularly during his weeks in intensive care. Now Ruth has quit her job as a forklift operator altogether "to stay home to make sure he gets what he needs and doesn't get what he doesn't need."

Robert's diet is restricted, to cut down on possible trigger foods that would cause a recurrence.

Family income dropped almost $500 a week. "We were at a point

Continued on page 8

Inside

Sarah's Good News Unopened

Mother's Day Offering Preserves Family

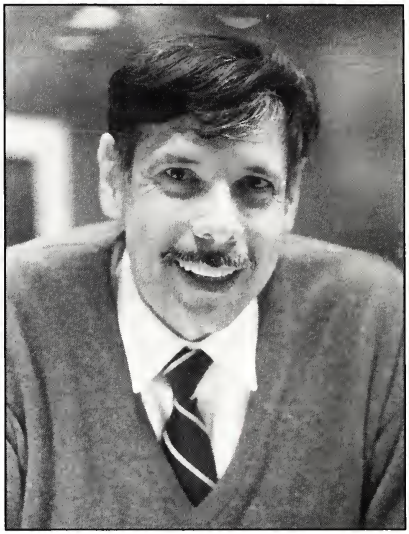
Preslar Keeps Hospital Close to Roots

Progress in Cancer Research

100% of Mother's Day Offering Is Used for Benevolent Care

Weak Genes Take Environmental Pounding

Real Progress Underway in Cancer Research



Frank Torti says your mother wasn't all wrong in the ways she encouraged you to eat well and take care of yourself.

While increased awareness and incidence of cancer makes many of us cringe, doctors like Frank Torti feel cancer research is in its most exciting, productive phase ever.

It is not logical to think contracting the illness is inevitable or that a death sentence is sure for those one in three who will probably contract some form of cancer, says Torti, director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baptist Medical Center.

"This is an enormously exciting and active time for cancer research," says Torti, who came to direct the Cancer Center after 14 years at Stanford University Medical Center in California. "We are making great headway at understanding the mechanisms of cancer and what causes them to spread."

Progress not commonly known by the public at large is being made every month in research labs like the one at Baptist Hospital. Within three or four years, Torti says, those discoveries will translate to active patient treatments.

"Our comprehensive cancer center is strategically poised to bridge the gap between laboratory and clinic," Torti said.

Baptist Medical Center/Wake Forest University Bowman Gray School of Medicine is one of only 26 comprehensive cancer centers in the nation. To earn the "comprehensive" designation, a facility must offer a complete program of cancer treatment, research and prevention.

Torti's group will soon take prevention another step by introducing a clinic to advise families with a cancer history. Doctors will encourage genetically susceptible patients to screen more frequently and make available to them the latest cancer tests.

Doctors will also help patients understand their risk of contracting cancer, and advise them how to lower that risk.

A "susceptible" gene is like a weak link in a chain. If a 10-pound test chain is never asked to pull more than nine pounds, it won't break... but under greater stress it will break.

– Frank Torti

"Risk avoidence" is something every person can practice, Torti said. Like not smoking to lower risk of lung cancer, there are things you can do to lower risk for other cancers, as well.

"Sometimes you can't do better than what your mother told you," Torti said. "Conventional wisdom is right."

Most avoidance procedures are things we already know, but Torti wants you to understand they make a real difference.

If you want to lower your cancer risk, eat a balanced diet with a high percentage of fruits and vegetables. There is some evidence anti-oxident vitamin supplements help. Don't smoke. Keep your weight within "norms" for your height. Work to diminish stress in your life.

"These are all things you can control," Torti said. "There is great wisdom in getting your whole life together in a way that supports your ideals for health and lowers your risk for all kinds of illnesses."

Beyond these measures, Torti suggests reasonable diligence, but not paranoia, about early warning signs of cancer, because many early cancers can be cured. He sees patients that let warning signs go unchecked, even if they were fairly certain they were malignant, because once they saw the sign, they figured it was too late, a death sentence.

"But often, it is not," Torti said. "Don't delay. No one will pick up warning signs before you."

Cancer treatment still is largely radiation and chemotherapy, but advances make those treatments more precise and effective, and less damaging to healthy cells.

New biological therapies using genes offer great promise, Torti said. He said evidence now is heavily weighted toward certain people being genetically susceptible to cancer, that the illness is caused by bad genes.

That's not to say everyone with a "susceptible gene" will contract the disease. It is to say your family medical history is important to warn or guide you in your own preventative stance.

A "susceptible" gene is like a weak link in a chain. If a 10-pound test chain is never asked to pull more than nine pounds, it won't break. It might not break with an 11 or 12-pound test. But the odds are greater that under greater stress it will break.

That's why it's important to lower your risks by avoiding environmental and personal hazards that might pound on your weak gene link.

Heart disease, which used to be the major killer of American adults, is diminishing, probably due to lifestyle changes in the general population resulting from a hard driving educational effort. Cancer has taken top place in the list of killers.

But the heart disease improvement encourages Torti, because it shows "some people **do** change."

Torti, with a long background in medical practice from Harvard to Boston to Stanford to Palo Alto, Calif., says there is "no question" that patient care at Baptist Medical Center is different.

"It always has been true at this place," he said. "The patient comes first. We do lots of other things here, but patients come first and they can feel that when they first drive into the entry circle and a man is there to help them out of their car.

"This hospital is staffed by dedicated and caring people."

Bills Kept Her Awake At Night

MDO Brings Carolyn Pierce Rest at Last

Carolyn Pierce sleeps better at night.

Faced with a hospital bill equal to 18 months' salary, Carolyn worried every day how she would make ends meet.

When her husband, Hoke, hadn't been feeling well for several months in 1987, he suspected a hiatal hernia. Tests showed he had esophageal cancer. He was operated on in January 1988, underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

He never went back to work and died in October at age 40, leaving two children, a wife, and more than $17,000 in hospital bills.

Hoke worked for his brother as a machinist and electrician. But his brother was reorganizing the business and had dropped health insurance. Carolyn, a second grade teacher's assistant at Bethany School outside Reidsville, was overwhelmed.

"My husband got wonderful care at the hospital, and I really wish I could have paid the bill," she said. "But it was totally impossible to pay."

Carolyn keeps records at Bethany School.

Then her brother, Larry Powers, pastor of Clifton Baptist Church in Ashe County, heard Bill Yates, Director of Baptist Hospital's Church and Community Relations Office, tell pastors about the benefits of the Mother's Day Offering and benevolent care funds it provides.

Powers passed that information to Carolyn, 47, who called the hospital and related her situation. Carolyn told financial counselor Linda Raasch that Hoke received wonderful care and "I appreciated it and if there was any way I could, the bill already would have been paid."

Raasch submitted Carolyn's request to the review committee and called in June 1994 with the news her bill would be paid by the benevolent fund.

"Her call was really quite overwhelming," Carolyn said. "There had been absolutely no hope for ever getting it paid or for ever being able to do anything else financially because of the (debt.) It was absolutely overwhelming. I'll never forget that day.

"You can't believe how much better I sleep now just knowing that it has been paid. This is just the most wonderful thing. "

"There had been absolutely no hope for ever getting it paid… It was absolutely overwhelming. I'll never forget that day."

– Carolyn Pierce

"What we are doing here is so fundamentally a part of and consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ that to lose that sense of founding and sense of mission of where we came from and why, we would lose a significant part of the values of the organization." – Len Preslar

Baptist Hospital Stays Close to Mission

President with deep church roots, who started part-time in admitting office keeps it there

With health care a huge business and Baptist Hospital as big a business as any, the hospital's president hasn't lost sight of the institution's focus on healing as ministry.

Len Preslar, president since 1988, a lifelong Baptist, is convinced Baptist Hospital does health care differently because it was founded on Christian principles by North Carolina Baptists.

"Our roots are important, they speak of the values of an organization," Preslar said during an interview in his office. "What we are doing here is so fundamentally a part of and consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ that to lose that sense of founding and sense of mission of where we came from and why, we would lose a significant part of the values of the organization."

Preslar hasn't outgrown the roots that run deeply through North Carolina Baptist church life.

Born the son of a second generation jeweler, he grew up in Concord's First Baptist Church with one older sister. His grandparents lived near and life revolved around family, church, school and store.

He and some church young people formed a folk singing group called the Court Jesters, which reached the "pinnacle" of its success when invited to sing at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly.

Vacations from the family business were rare. Preslar learned his work ethic from his father and grandfather, an ethic that carried him from a part-time Baptist Hospital admitting office host to president of the hospital.

Preslar left Concord to study economics at Wake Forest University. Some friends worked part-time at the hospital, so he applied too.

He began as an admitting office assistant, helping patients settle into their rooms. He worked hard and showed interest in learning more. He soon began work as a counselor in the financial office.

When he graduated in 1971, he started full-time in the financial office. By 1976 he was vice-president for financial management. During his tenure as vice-president, Preslar earned an MBA in finance from UNC-Greensboro. He has been president of Baptist Hospital since 1988.

Preslar enjoys his work at all levels, always feeling he was "making a meaningful contribution."

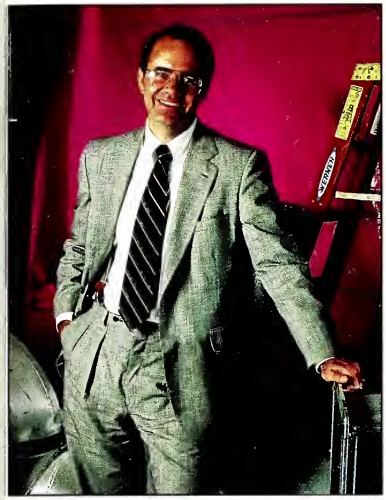
"It's important to people's lives that they feel joy in being a part of something significant and making a contribution," Preslar said. "Saying so is not pride in a self-centered, ego sense, but pride in the accomplishments of the whole. Because there is no business activity that commands teamwork like medical care.

"The most brilliant surgeon on our staff can't get his work done without support staff preparing the room."

Baptist Hospital employs over 5,000 people and the entire medical center complex employs more than 9,000, making it the largest employer in Forsyth County. The "nature of our employees" tends to prod them into more community involvement than is typical, thereby increasing Baptist Hospital's influence far beyond its payroll.

"Baptist support through the Mother's Day Offering has been an important ministry to people's lives. Patients who have been helped know someone was there for them."
– Len Preslar

An active Baptist layman, it is impossible for Preslar to compartmentalize his life into the professional and the



Baptist Hospital President Len Preslar intends to keep the hospital closely tied to its North Carolina Baptist roots.

spiritual, into work and church or work, family, church, volunteer. He has been active at College Park Baptist Church in Winston-Salem since his student days. Now his wife, Jodi, and their children, Brad, 18, Whitney, 16, and Drew, 14, are involved there.

Preslar has sung in the choir, been a deacon and church treasurer, Sunday school officer and elected messenger to conventions from the church. He is on city and statewide boards of businesses and volunteer agencies. But the hospital "can be an all consuming place and I struggle with balancing church, work and family," Preslar admitted. "Jodi is good about keeping me honest with family responsibilities."

Family activities include time in the mountains, his best place to relax. They like to ski together, play tennis and golf and see movies and plays. He and Jodi play bridge.

Preslar is a gardener, too. Working in an antiseptic world where every decision could bear life and death consequences, he enjoys digging with his hands and tools in forgiving earth.

The "Baptist" in Baptist Hospital is very important to Preslar. It relates to his roots, his stem and his branches. Everything he is and has done his entire life is closely connected with what it means to be Baptist.

Baptist Hospital's relationship to North Carolina Baptists is important to him, too. It has changed through the years as financial dependence diminished.

"Their child has grown to maturity and attained a certain degree of independence," Preslar said. "We're still part of the family and I hope they take pride in their child."

Two enabling dimensions remain particularly important for Preslar when considering the relationship between ministry, North Carolina Baptists and their hospital:

"I hope our Baptist constituency across the state still feels they can be a part of ministry through Baptist Hospital by their Cooperative Program support," he said. "And Baptist support specifically through the Mother's Day Offering has been an important ministry to people's lives.

"Patients who have been helped know that someone was there for them during a time of need."

Baptist Hospital utilizes its Cooperative Program support to fund a chaplaincy program, Christian counseling centers and its Center for Congregational Health. On any given day, 15 to 35 chaplains are ministering at Baptist Hospital.

Typically, other large hospitals might have two.

Because Baptist Hospital is a referral hospital, most patients are there in serious circumstances, receiving medical help not commonly available in most communities. That means they often come from a distance, far from their support resources like family, friends, church and pastor.

In essence, the entire Baptist Hospital team becomes their extended family during care.

Chaplains are important both to them, and to the care givers at the hospital.

The two-year-old Center for Congregational Health trains "intentional interim" pastors and is involved with conflict resolution in churches.

"This mutual ministry with the state Baptist convention is invaluable in the crisis environment in churches today, and enables us to feel we have direct ministry with the local congregation." Preslar said.

Utilization of that service far exceeds initial expectations.

Preslar wants Baptists to think first of Baptist Hospital if their health care needs cannot be met locally. But with relationships between doctors and hospitals changing constantly, Preslar said it may take an "overt" effort to be referred to Baptist as their hospital of choice. "If so, that's not right," he said. "Baptists started this organization and should be able to utilize it."

"I fundamentally believe there is a market answer to the health care issue."

Health care as a national issue occupies much of Preslar's time since "reform" became a watch word in the Clinton administration. Preslar is convinced the best health care reform will come through market reform.

"It's clear to those within the system we must build better value, not just in cost, but the best possible outcome and quality of care.

"Those in the system are in the best possible position to achieve that value, as opposed to the government," he said."

Preslar believes in the church and in Baptist Hospital's ability to help the church in Christian ministry. He relishes the hospital's growth from infancy to mature adult, and knows that now, "the child is now in a position to help the parent."

Letter Brings Hope Where None Lived

Good news sat unopened in apartment.

Sarah Conrad had a nerve problem so severe she couldn't open her mouth to eat or talk.

A brain operation relieved pressure behind her ear and restored her speech.

Then complications pushed her hospital bills past $17,000 and she was speechless again!

Ms. Conrad had been a part-time secretary at Phillips Chapel in Winston-Salem for two years. During that time a *tic* manifested itself on her face that eventually made it impossible to open her mouth.

Sarah Conrad loves to watch her granddaughter Jasmine.

Surgeons at Baptist Hospital found extraordinary pressure on a nerve behind her ear. They could operate through her face, risking permanent numbness, or do brain surgery, also dangerous. She opted for brain surgery on May 13, 1993.

She awoke the next morning able to talk and eat. Everything was going well, too well, in fact. She was warned there could be complications, but paid little heed.

After four days in the hospital, she returned home. Almost immediately, brain swelling from excess fluid forced a return to the hospital for nine days.

"I wasn't frightened the first trip to the hospital," said Ms. Conrad, former secretary for 15 years in the education department at Winston-Salem State University. "But I was scared out of my mind the second time because I'd always heard such bad things about spinal taps."

Hospital staff alleviated those fears by literally holdng her hand during that necessary, but uncomfortable, procedure.

"They encouraged and comforted me verbally and stood by me physically," Mrs. Conrad said. "Because of that, I was able to maintain and go on through it."

"I find it comforting that a place as large as Baptist Hospital can be so caring to take the time with each individual patient," she said. "You think your illness is severe until you look around and see others in worse condition, but staff there try to give you as much care and attention as those more seriously ill."

Still, Ms. Conrad had no medical insurance. She couldn't return to work. She lived with her daughter, Irene, who, herself, survives on disability payments.

"We had no hope of paying," said Ms. Conrad. Being epilepetic and hypertensive, her general health was not good and worrying about hospital bills did nothing to improve it.

"Irene told me 'all of our needs are met through Christ Jesus' and we didn't discuss it anymore."

Then Irene went to visit friends in Tulsa and her mail gathered, unopened at the apartment. Among the letters gathering dust waiting for her return was one from Baptist Hospital.

When Irene opened it, she ran and said, "Mamma, did you know your hospital bill has been paid?"

"We just repeated the amount to ourselves - $17,060 - and had a time of rejoicing," Ms. Conrad said.

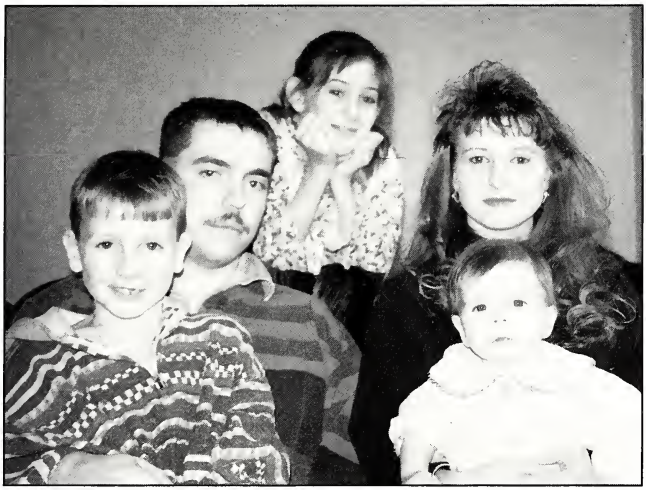
"We thank God North Carolina Baptists' hearts were touched to look into that method of paying for our bill," she said. "That was an enormous gift."

Then, Ms. Conrad said everyone has gifts within themselves they don't realize, "the gift of health, the ability to talk and move about."

Since she lost those gifts momentarily, Ms. Conrad is especially thankful for them now. And especially thankful North Carolina Baptists made it possible for her to discover a huge gift that removed worry from her life.

"We thank God North Carolina Baptists' hearts were touched."

– Sarah Conrad



Shane, Aaron, Heather and Annette all lived through Lauren's agonies with her.

"This allowed us to keep our heads above water… to keep food on the table. It contributed to the stability of our family. It enabled us to stay in a decent community and to stay off welfare."

– Shane Good

MDO Secures Family Stability From Debt Threat

When nurses tried to take a rectal temperature on newborn Lauren Good, they could find no anal opening.

Then, x-rays revealed a curved spine and head contusions.

Lauren's mom and dad, Annette and Shane Good, were dazed. A neonatal transport team rushed Lauren from Hickory to Baptist Hospital where she had surgery for a colostomy, rerouting her small intestine through an opening in her side to drain into a bag.

After five days in intensive care, Lauren returned home, but was very sensitive to movement and would cry loudly when her colostomy bag was changed. But after a week, she no longer cried at all.

Her silence was as frightening as her screams had been.

Back at Baptist Hospital, doctors discerned the bruises on her head were from Lauren's efforts to be born early. She literally banged her head on her mother's pelvic bone, causing bruises.

Bacteria formed in those contusions and she had a blood infection. This time Lauren was in intensive care two weeks.

Then, her own will to thrive became almost an enemy.

Doctors wanted to wait until Lauren was at least four months old before cutting an anal opening and attaching the intestine in its proper place. But her colostomy incision kept healing closed.

To keep it open doctors inserted a stainless steel dilating rod through the incision and into the intestine. But it would close again in little more than 48 hours.

One day when she was still just three months old, it was healed completely closed, forcing the doctor to cut an opening. He wouldn't put her through that again, and he planned surgery.

Today, Lauren stands and takes steps. No surgery is planned on her spine unless complications develop. And changing diapers is a blessing!

Another blessing is the Mother's Day Offering which enabled Baptist Hospital to cover that portion of Lauren's $87,000 in medical care that was not covered by the Good's insurance.

Their out-of-pocket expenses during Lauren's hospitalizations were enormous. Annette's work as an insurance agent was cut back dramatically. They made 38 round trips from Hickory to Winston-Salem to be with Lauren and try to work. And they have two other children.

So when they received a letter from Baptist Hospital saying the nearly $1,500 not covered by insurance was paid by North Carolina Baptists, "we were relieved," Shane said.

"It really helped out a lot. When you're dealing with something like this, it's bad enough. But when you keep getting bills and bills and bills, you think 'What did I get myself into?'

"This gift from North Carolina Baptists allowed us to keep our heads above water… to keep food on the table. It contributed to the stability of our family. It enabled us to stay in a decent community and to stay off welfare."

"Cherish Every Moment"

Family With 'Miracle Child' Finds Miracle of Mother's Day Offering

Continued from page 1

when family members were bringing food to the house," Ruth said. "We couldn't buy a simple gallon of milk. That's bad. I know there's other families that are in that situation sometimes, but it's hard when you're used to being able to get what you need."

Fellow workers and family helped with cash, food and Christmas gifts. "If it wasn't for people around us, we couldn't have made it," Ruth said.

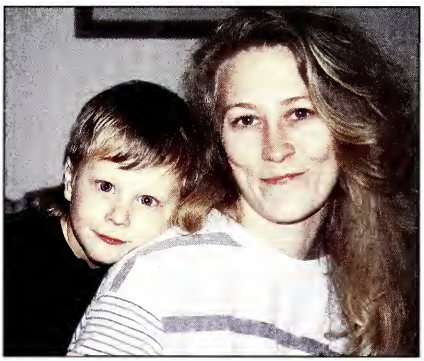
Employer insurance paid most of the bills. That still left $3,000.

One day the economic pressure got to them and Ruth and Robert Sr., had a loud argument about how they were going to pay bills. In their mail several hours later came a letter from Baptist Hospital saying North Carolina Baptists, through the Mother's Day Offering, had covered Robert's unpaid balance.

"I handed the letter to my husband and after he read it, we just fell into each other's arms," Ruth said.

"We're so grateful to North Carolina Baptists for the help we received. When we were talking with the financial counselor at the hospital, he said, 'At least you can smile through all this.' I said we have reason to smile. We still have our boy and there's other children still in the hospital who were there when Robert entered."

"Now," she said, "I sit home all day and play trucks and cars with him. I cherish every moment I have with him.



Robert is back to his old self, hard to keep track of and banging heads with the ground.

Touching Lives With Hope

◆ *You* ◆

Make It Happen

The stories inside of Robert, Sarah, Lauren and Carolyn are not just stories. They are the testimonies of real people that people like you have helped to hold their lives together when they were about to come apart at the seams.

The annual Mother's Day Offering among churches for North Carolina Baptist Hospital enables the hospital to cover obligations incurred by some who, for various reasons, are unable to meet their hospital expenses.

Shane Good said the offering helped keep his family off welfare and in a safe environment; ***Carolyn Pierce*** said you can't imagine what a difference it's made in her life; ***Ruth Dennis*** said it helped put bread and milk on her table; ***Sarah Conrad*** said it made real the impossible.

You can have a hand in more miracles just like these when you give to the Mother's Day Offering.

Nurses Cry, Too

For Larry Freeman, the nurses on the ninth floor of North Tower at North Carolina Baptist Hospital were more than just health care professionals helping him in his fight against cancer. He considered them friends of the family; and they cried when he died.

Freeman got to know many of them well in the two and a half years after he was first diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. He admired the nurses' professional style and friendliness. "They know how to talk to patients," Freeman said. "They don't just say, 'Here's a pill.' They explain what it's for."

His wife was by his side during his hospital stays, sleeping in his room most nights. But when she or his daughter couldn't be there, he could count on the nurses and nursing assistants for support.

Even at their busiest, the nurses could find time to talk or just listen. "They might come in and give you a hug if you need a hug," Freeman said during an interview in early July. "Even if I'm not one of their patients, they'll drop by."

When he wasn't in the hospital, nurses would sometimes send him cards asking how he was doing, and he and his family would frequently come up to the floor to visit.

Sharon Pease, a staff nurse on 9 North, said she tried to comfort Freeman's wife, Wanda, the day he died.

"I was OK until she hugged me and started crying on my shoulder," Pease said, wiping the tears from her eyes.

Nurses take a course from Baptist Hospital chaplains on death and dying to help them cope.

Legacy Builders Retreat Set For March 31–April 1

Legacy Builders, a men's retreat that teaches the biblical basis of manhood will conduct a retreat March 31–April 1 in Asheboro. Participants will learn how to apply the principles of being God's man in three important areas of life: home, church, and marketplace.

The retreat will begin with supper on Friday evening and conclude with lunch on Saturday. The four sessions of the retreat include: Profile of a Godly Man; God's Man in the Home; God's Man in the Church; God's Man in the Marketplace. This retreat will be led by Jim Burton, Men's Ministry Director, SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, Tenn..

The cost for the weekend retreat is $35 per person, which covers lodging (cabins at the youth camp), three meals (Friday supper, Saturday breakfast, and Saturday lunch), insurance, program workbooks, and the program.

Bring a towel, linens or sleeping bag, and pillow. In addition, bring a Bible, personal toiletries, etc. The dress code is casual.

For more information or registration check the appropriate item on the back page.

Promise Keepers Leadership Seminar Is June 9–10

What do men really want? It's NOT so much corporate power, royal treatment or wild man experiences but rather, vital relationships, genuine recovery, honest communication, true fathers, older male mentors, and balance in life's demands.

This is the belief of a group called "Promise Keepers." a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to uniting men through vital relationships to become godly influences in the world.

Promise Keepers will conduct a seminar Friday and Saturday, June 9-10, Christ Covenant Church, 1414 Cliffwood Dr., Greensboro.

The hands-on seminar examines the current men's movement, delves into the way men were fathered and do fathering today, celebrates the way God made men and guides in the development of a strategic men's ministry tailored to your specific situation.

Promise Keepers designed this seminar with expert teachers and model resources to equip and prepare you to develop an effective in-reach and out-reach ministry wherever you are.

To request a brochure or to register , call (800) 888–7595 and ask for seminar #420. The registration fee is $25 per person.

August is Family Missions Month

One of the best ways children can learn about missions is to see their parents involved in missions, particularly if they are working alongside each other. This time can also be one of the family's most memorable occasions and might include children and adults who have never been involved in missions. A family may be as few as two.

Woman's Missionary Union, the Evangelism Division, and N.C. Baptist Men are sponsoring Family Missions Month in August. This involvement, just before our N.C. missions emphasis, could be very rewarding. It may also be a good way to rekindle interest in missions after the summer.

Some suggestions for family missions experiences:

- Make cookies for your sanitation people, enclose a note that says, "God loves you and so do we;"
- Put a soft drink and cookies with a note in your mailbox for your letter carrier;
- Seek out new children in the neighborhood to tell them about your school and church;
- Adopt a grandparent at a nearby nursing home;
- Clean up and organize a church clothes closet;
- Winterize an elderly person's home;
- Give a treat "In Christ's name" to a waitress;
- Give a leaflet or a small gift to someone you meet while on vacation;
- Collect school supplies for a family that cannot afford them;
- Make coin banks for the N.C. missions offering; and set a family goal and work out ways for each family member to contribute.

There are all kinds of possibilities. Please call us to get a brochure with additional ideas. If August is not a good time for such an activity, choose another time.

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

Dennie Crowder
State Family Foundations Coordinator
9705 Stony Hill Lane
Charlotte, NC 28277
(704) 541–7760

Homeland Projects Announced

Korean First, Raleigh

Subs are now working on site. Volunteers will be needed for painting beginning in April. Contact David Williams, on-site coordinator, Durham (919) 596–9610; or Bill Poindexter, Region 4 Homeland Projects Coordinator, Pittsboro (919) 542–3819.

Hispanic Mission, Pittsboro

This will be a frame/brick 4700 sq. ft. building with construction beginning in early spring. Contact Bill Poindexter, on-site and Region 4 coordinator, Pittsboro (919) 542–3819.

Maplewood Church, Yadkinville

This 9000 sq. ft. brick-veneered church is now in progress. It is under roof and in need of skilled volunteers. Freddie Braswell is pastor, (910) 679–3565.
SCHEDULE:

March 8–25 — sheetrock finishing;
March 25–April 14 — interior trim, interior doors and frame;
April 6–22 — cabinets, kitchen and others;
April 15–30 — ceramic tile and special floors;
April 30–May 27 — painting;
March 27–April 22 — brick veneer;
April 10–29 — exterior trim;
May 27–June 10 — plumbing finish;
June 4–18 — electrical finish and heating & air conditioning finish;
June 1–10 — vinyl tile and floor covering;
April 24–May 6 — outside walk and drive thru;
May 27–June 10 — door locks, handicap hardware, etc.;
April 24–May 6 — finish grading;
May 6–20 — landscaping;
June 1–10 — general clean-up; and
June 10–17 — carpets and finishing.

Contact Wayne Honeycutt, on-site coordinator, (910) 679–3555 (church building site); (704) 922–7050 (home).

Tar Heel Lodge, Ridgecrest

Roofing and interior renovation are the primary needs for the Baptist State Convention's Tar Heel Lodge at Ridgecrest. Contact Kenneth Fields at (800) 395–5102.

N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell)

The NC Baptist Assembly (Caswell) near Southport needs volunteers! Numerous work projects are available, utilizing almost any skill level from skilled tradesman to unskilled laborer.

Contact David Lloyd, assistant director, N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell), (910) 278–9501.

Mundo Vista, Asheboro

The GA and Acteens Camp near Asheboro continues its effort to winterize their summer cottages. HELP!!! People are needed for digging and pouring foundations. The first two weeks in each month are work weeks with feeding and lodging for crews arranged by N.C. Woman's Missionary Union. Contact Bob Navey, Camp Mundo Vista director, (910) 625–4828.

Hope Builders Pilot Project, Shelby

This is a pilot project in partnership with Cleveland County Council on Aging, Kings Mountain Association, and N.C. Baptist Men. We need volunteers statewide (youth and adults) to meet the repair needs of homes of the elderly in Cleveland County. Local churches will host work teams by providing housing and food. Contact Mark Abernathy, NCBM, (800) 395–5102 for details.

Matthew 25 House, Pender County

Matthew 25 House is a 7000 sq. ft. building set up to provide overnight lodging and meals for families visiting inmates of the Pender County unit. Area churches plan to provide support, counseling, and child care during visits. Details will be available later.

N.C. Baptist Student Union, UNC-Wilmington

This is construction of a frame Baptist Student Union Building. The slab is already in place, and work will begin in early spring. Contact Ed Bullock, Wilmington Association, (910) 799–1160.

"I CARE" South Miami

Volunteers are still needed for the over 1000 homes without water and electricity as a result of Hurricane Andrew in south Miami, Florida. Some projects involve light work while others are complex construction projects. "I CARE" has a nice volunteer complex, providing food and lodging for $20 per person per week. There are numerous opportunities for a personal witness while working. If you're interested, call "I CARE," (800) 637–5790.

Graffiti - Manhattan, New York

Large Synagogue purchased by Graffiti Baptist Church is now a shell in need of major renovation, salvation, and "baptizing." This will be a long-term project. Contact N.C. Baptist Men's office, (800) 395–5102, for details.

For a current list of construction needs or other volunteer opportunities, call Linda Hicks at the Baptist Building, (800) 395–5102, or your associational office for a "pairing." There are still many, many needs!

Rex Everhart
State Homeland Projects Coordinator
2917 Covered Bridge Road
Clayton, NC 27520
(800) 669–0949

Churches Blessed By Lay Witnessing Team

Since its conception in 1957, the Baptist Lay Witnessing Foundation (BLWF) has stayed true to its course. I recall many moving and powerful experiences that are still very instrumental in encouraging me to continue to tell the story of Jesus. I am often reminded of the faithful servants who introduced me to Lay Evangelism and helped me experience that unspeakable joy that comes when you witness to a person and hear them say, "Yes, I want to invite Jesus into my heart." Friend, if you have not had an experience like that in your Christian walk then I say to you that you have missed one of God's greatest blessings.

We continue to share in churches all across our land and oftentimes we travel outside the continental USA. Our meetings are usually on weekends: Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday. Occasionally, we have meetings that begin on Wednesday night and go through Sunday. The need for men and women to verbalize their testimony and witness is greater today than at any other time in the history of our country. We are losing the battle.

There is an increase in the number of unsaved, unchurched families. Satan seems to have the upper hand. Many people seem unconcerned about themselves or others; however, we find that as we go out among the people there are many who are waiting for someone to come and share the plan of salvation with them.

Every church would benefit from a BLWF team of witnessing, loving, caring people who have a desire and a zeal for seeing lost people saved. Our churches have many fine folk who love to visit and fellowship, but they never seem to find the courage to ask a person about his or her relationship to the Lord. When we ask a person if they know Jesus, and they say no, we must be prepared to tell them about our relationship to Jesus. It is so important to be in a position to share Christ. The need is to share God's plan of salvation, to help a lost person understand that without Jesus there is no hope. Many are like the jailer in the Philippian prison who asked Paul, "What must I do to be saved?" That is a question that every Christian should be ready to answer.

The Baptist Lay Witnessing Foundation was founded and organized in 1957 by two men who recognized this need. These two covenanted together to teach others how to witness. The idea was to go into a church and help the men and women of that church to visit among the membership and prospects of that church field and share Christ, encourage the delinquent members and train the church members in how to witness and share their faith in a one-on-one situation. Just as Jesus sent out the 70, two-by-two, we find that it still works. Sort of on-the-job training is a good explanation.

Come and go with us and observe how we witness. All we ask the church member to do is take us to the home where the prospect lives and introduce us at the door. If we are invited in, then we ask the prospect about his or her relationship to the Lord and inquire if they have a church affiliation with a local church. Many times we do this at the door and as the person warms to the situation, we are invited into their home.

We continue to marvel at the number of people who say to us, "I was hoping that someone would come and tell me how to be saved" or "I've really been thinking about this," so we walk through that open door and the Holy Spirit does the work of conviction in that person's heart. We become observers with our teammate at this point. We just lift up Jesus and He draws the people to Himself. That is where the great sense of real joy and peace comes from. Seeking the lost is my Father's business. Jesus came to seek and save that which is lost.

Your church would be blessed by having a Lay Witness team come and share with you. There are 12 coordinators in North Carolina who lead teams to churches from the coast to the mountains. It is easy to contact these coordinators by writing to the North Carolina Baptist Men's office. The process is simple. When they receive your request, a coordinator will contact you. There is most likely a coordinator near you who would be assigned to your church. Give it a try. You will be blessed through the experience and your church can become a witnessing outpost for our Lord.

You may ask: "What does it cost?" The answer is: "There is no fee involved." We travel at our own expense. The church where we labor will provide food and shelter. It is best that we stay in the home of church members. This creates a witnessing situation whereby we are able to encourage our host family. We also are able to share more fully the Lay Witness concept. Spending a couple of days with this family may lead to a realization that they need to be involved in this ministry for their church. It really has the effect of a "wake-up call" to get on with the business of witnessing to a lost world. The Christian life is not a spectator sport. We need to be involved in the church life and not sitting in a pew waiting for someone else to meet the need.

Mike Smith
State Lay Revival Coordinator
22 Ballantree Drive
Asheville, NC 28803
(704) 274-4261

MEDICAL/DENTAL MISSIONS

Medical Assistance To Ukraine Is 1995 Project

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, in association with the North Carolina Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship, has entered into a formal agreement with the Baptist Union of Ukraine to supply medications to the country. This program will utilize the existing organizational structure of the Baptist Union of Ukraine to the 25 regions and local churches. The medications will be distributed both to local members as a ministry of the church and to others as an evangelistic outreach tool.

Facilitating this agreement necessitates the support of all North Carolina churches. We are excited that our churches can participate in this ministry to the people of Ukraine. Currently Ukraine can manufacture no medications in the country. Secondly, they are unable to purchase medications with their own currency.

We have worked out an agreement with the Missionary Assistance Program (MAP) which has 40 years of experience in sending medications to mission hospitals around the world. We will be able to purchase medications at close to a 50 to 1 purchase advantage, that is for every dollar we will be given 50 dollars of wholesale medications. Further, MAP packages these medications and we will be able to get these medicines shipped free from MAP headquarters in Georgia to Kiev, Ukraine.

Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship
of North Carolina

We encourage your churches to immediately begin a fund-raising drive to raise money whether it be $100, $500, or $1,000, or whatever the amount. It will be easier for us to purchase in this manner than to have individuals collect medications from their churches or individuals and send them to the Baptist Building.

Please send all donations to North Carolina Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107 or call (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102.

We are excited for you to be able to participate in this endeavor as we supply assistance to the people of Ukraine.

Sending medical doctors, dentists and nurses to Ukraine over this two-year period is part of this agreement. Following are dates we will send medical teams to the Ukraine for two weeks:

May 6–20, 1995 (Kiev)
June 10–24, 1995 (Sumi)
July 22–Aug. 5, 1995 (Poltava)
Aug. 19–Sept. 2, 1995 (Lvov)

The following are types of medical doctors that Ukrainian physicians have requested to work with them: internists, family practitioners, pediatricians, urologists, orthopedic surgeons. These physicians will go in teams of three to five and work with Ukrainian counterpart physicians, dentists, and nurses. They will assist with evangelism through the health care delivered.

Should you have interest in joining in this exciting work, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Ron Halbrooks, M.D.
State Medical Missions Coordinator
5419 Highland drive
Durham, NC 27712
(919) 383–5757

RESORT/LEISURE MISSIONS

Rest Stop Ministry Scheduled For Memorial Day Weekend

Sometimes the most welcomed sign on a long trip is the rest stop sign. Let's make it a stop worth remembering this Memorial Day weekend. We're looking for people interested in rest stop ministry. People who want to greet travelers with a smiling face, a friendly word, and a cup of cold water or hot coffee in Jesus' name. You may also have the chance to offer roadside assistance and travel information.

Three rest stop ministries will operate on Memorial Day weekend from 6:00 p.m. on Friday to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday:

N.C. Welcome Center on I-40 hosted by Haywood Association;

Rest area on I-85 near Lexington hosted by Liberty Association; and

Rest area on I-95 near Smithfield hosted by Johnston Association.

Volunteers will work three-hour shifts. It's interesting to talk to so many different people, and the travelers really appreciate this ministry. For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

Overseas Missions Projects Needed

Overseas mission opportunities continue to *become more* in the forefront of people's minds as we see the trouble that goes on in our world. The sadness, brought on by the faces we see in distant places like Bosnia, Rwanda, Czeshky, and Japan, instills in us the fact that we need to go and minister. Thanks, North Carolina Baptists, for doing all we can to help those people.

The Partnerships that we now have going are in full swing. Work continues through the winter months in Prague. Plans are on course to open the seminary in the fall of this year. Pray for Don and Jerri Murry as they lead the construction portion of this project. Sandy Smith continues to do a great job in coordinating this partnership for NCBM.

The Partnership with Ukraine is in the planning stage this winter. The first scout team left February 11 to visit the 16 churches that we will be working on this year. Kanoot Midkiff is there now working out all the details. Continue to pray for Kanoot. Volunteers are needed for this year's projects. Things are still tough in Ukraine and we must take advantage of every opportunity that we can to minister in that country.

When construction sites have been surveyed and the information is received, we will assign locations to the trip dates that have already been circulated. Teams and individuals may sign up for any open date on a first-come basis. The first date is April 15-29. Beginning April 15, teams may depart every other Saturday (i.e., April 22, April 29, May 6, etc.) until November 4, which is the last date a team may leave for 1995.

We have received many inquiries and some groups and individuals have already applied for this year. North Carolina Baptists continue to serve God all over the world. Lately we have had teams go to Brazil, Haiti, Peru, and Rwanda. Volunteers are needed for mission trips to Brazil in September. Also, Wes Lytton needs volunteers to go with him to Peru.

It has been a great privilege to be the Overseas Missions Coordinator for the past three years. Time has flown by. Bob Mizelle will be our new state coordinator for overseas missions. Bob and his wife, Martha, are now in Prague for three months as volunteers, doing what they can to help the Murrys. Bob and Martha will do a great job leading us through new doors that are opened. Pray for them as they start their new ministry.

Walter and Jackie Ford are furloughing in the Western Carolina Mountains. Many of you remember them from Togo as our coordinators for construction there. They are now serving in Eastern and Southern Africa as construction missionaries. They influenced many of us who now serve as volunteers. They set the example; now we can follow. Thanks, Walter and Jackie, for all you do.

I thank everyone for their prayers and support. Many have gone and more will be needed as we seek to find God's will for us in overseas missions. The world is getting smaller every day but larger to gospel opportunities. Continue to seek out and pray about your service. God has a place for each of us, and we need to be in that place.

Robert Stroup,
Outgoing Overseas Projects Coordinator
123 Stroup Road
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

You Can Make A Difference In China

Teachers to China is a project of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC. The SBC Brotherhood Commission, and the National Fellowship of Baptist Educators are responsible for the recruitment and enlistment of volunteers.

Through the medium of education, you can share Christ with Chinese students. The door has been opened for volunteer teachers to spend several weeks in China teaching English while developing relationships with students, colleagues and others in the community. The objective is to lead others to Christ through a Christian lifestyle.

You must have a college degree. Teaching certification and classroom teaching or group leadership experience is required in most cases. English as a second language (ESL) training and experience working with international students are desirable.

The cost will be $2,225 (which is subject to change) and will include transportation, housing, meals, teaching materials and an orientation with foreign missionaries in Guangzhou. Incidental expenses will be approximately $5 a day. This price does not include any domestic travel to the departure city, Los Angeles. Your journey begins on July 1 and you will return to the United States on August 16.

For more information, contact Debbie Pippin or Tim Yarbrough, Adults in Missions Department, SBC Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tenn. 38104 or call (901) 272–2461 or (800) 280–1891.

Bob Mizelle
State Overseas Projects Coordinator
1626 US 13 N
Windsor, NC 27983
(919) 794–3759

Camp Angel Tree To Be Held August 7–12

We saw boys with visible, ugly scars — both physical and emotional. We saw boys test their new territory and scuffle. We saw boys shout and laugh and sing Father Abraham. And by the end of the week last year, we saw over *half* of the 53 Camp Angel Tree campers stand during the commitment service to make a decision for Christ.

Camp Angel Tree is a week of camp for boys with parent(s) in prison. This year, our goal is to provide a week of camp for 100 boys. The cost for each boy to attend is $95. We need individuals, churches, RA groups, and others to sponsor a boy for a week of camp at Caraway.

Pray about this opportunity to give one of these boys a chance to experience God's love in a way he may never have before. Many grew up without a positive male role model. Until camp, many of these boys didn't know what it was like for someone not to yell or hit them when they did something wrong. Some didn't know what it was like to spend a night feeling safe. Lots missed their moms, but by the end of the week, *all* of them had experienced the love of God in some way, be it through the care and attention of their counselors, the words of the camp pastor, or the friendships of their fellow campers. That love changed them. Please help us give more boys the same opportunity this summer.

ANGEL TREE®
A Ministry of Prison Fellowship

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

Camp Caraway Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for Camp Caraway, the State Royal Ambassador Camp in Asheboro! The following weeks are available: Week 1 June 19–21; Week 2 June 26–July 1; Week 3 July 3–8 (Father/Son Mini-Camps); Week 4 July 10–15; Week 5 July 17–22; Week 6 July 24–29; Week 7 July 31–August 5. Boys ages 9 – 17 are eligible for the camp and do not have to be an active member of Royal Ambassadors to attend. Cost for the camp is $90 per person.

Camp sessions begin on Monday at 1:00 p.m. and conclude on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. This schedule now coincides with the Camp Mundo Vista camp schedule in case churches wish to bring both boys and girls to camp at the same time.

Camp Caraway is entering its 33rd consecutive year of offering boys from across the state a spiritually challenging, fun-filled week of summer camp. The well-rounded program includes such activities as archery, canoeing, swimming, hiking, camping, ropes course, basketball, volleyball, Bible study, mission study, and more. Each boy is placed in a cabin with other boys his age under the care of a well-qualified, well-trained Christian young man who serves as his counselor for the week.

Camp is a great place for a boy to grow spiritually and have a ball doing it. If your son or RA members have never attended a week at Camp Caraway, why not make this their first—they'll be glad you did!

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

State RA/Challengers Track Meet Set For May 5–6

The State RA/Challenger track meet takes place at Southwest Randolph High School in Asheboro on May 5 & 6. The meet is open to Crusaders and Challengers (boys in grades 4–12). Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:30 p.m.. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE PRESENT AT THE PROGRAM. Preliminary events begin Friday at 8:15 p.m. and continue until 10:00 p.m. On Saturday the meet begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 1:30 p.m. The registration fee for each boy is $3.50 (no meals included). Food will be available for purchase on site. Blocks of rooms are reserved at Comfort Inn, (910) 626–4414 and Days Inn, (910) 629–2101. Please make your own reservations and remember to ask for the N.C. Baptist Men's block. Deadline for registration to be received in the NCBM office is May 1, 1995.

Churches must participate in the associational meet to be eligible for the state meet; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers at the associational meet will be eligible for the state meet. A trophy will be given to the church, not the association, with the highest number of points in each age division. The Bill Hern Missions Award will be given to the church with the highest overall score. There will be no associational award. Only rules and forms dated 1995 will be used—*no exceptions!* Contact your associational office or check the appropriate item on the back page for more information.

Learn New Skills With Campcraft At Caraway

Twice a year N.C. Baptist Men provide an opportunity for adults to learn new camping skills through Adult Campcraft Training. The training covers such areas as firecraft, ropecraft, equipment, map & compass, conservation, and more. This year it will be held April 21–23 at Camp Caraway Family Campground near Asheboro. Cost is $35 per person which includes food, instruction and your campsite fee. Participants must bring their own tent and sleeping bag. The Adult Campcraft Training begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and concludes at noon on Sunday.

Participants learn new camping skills as well as enjoy the beauty of Camp Caraway under the stars. The Campcraft training includes three levels of instruction: basic, advanced, and instructor. The skills taught can be utilized for personal development as well as to lead local RA and Challenger groups in successful, safe, and meaningful camping experiences.

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

Take a 'Christian High Adventure'

"Christian High Adventure" is an opportunity we offer to young men. Based from Camp Caraway, it involves hiking on the Appalachian Trail, in the spectacular Mount Rogers National Recreation area near Troutdale, Virginia. Young men ages 14 1/2 and up are welcome, as well as counselors, fathers, and other males who want to join in on these weeks. Cost is $105 per person and includes all expenses except boots and personal clothing and articles.

The following weeks are available: Week 1 – June 11–16 (FULL); Week 2 – June 18–23; Week 3 – June 25–30; Week 4 – July 2–7; Week 5 – July 9–14 (FULL); Week 6 – July 16–21; Week 7 – July 23–28; Week 8 – July 30–August 4; Week 9 – August. 6–11. Four weeks are designated for coed youth groups. Special arrangements must be made with NCBM to reserve one of these weeks for your group.

Participants learn backpacking skills such as equipment selection, trail procedures, campsite selection and setup, map and compass, hygiene, rock climbing, and rappelling. Each participant is challenged toward spiritual growth through morning devotions, evening rap sessions, and time spent in meditation with the Creator.

A participate reflects, "The morning air is cool on the mountaintop, even in July. As we sit in quiet solitude, absorbing nature's song, a hawk circles in the wooded valley below. Prayer comes easily in a place like this and is best enjoyed with open eyes. Soon we'll break camp and hike up to our new destination..."

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

RA Congress April 8: Fun For All

Relay races, tug-o-wars, softball throws, air rifle shoots, and RA racer runoffs are just some of the events planned for this year's RA Congress. The Congress is open to all boys in grades 1–6 and their counselors. Your boys will want to join in the fun! We have three regional Congresses planned for April 8, 1995: Kennedy Children's Home, Kinston; Mills Children's Home, Thomasville; and Burkemont Church, Morganton.

The cost is $5 per person which includes a hot dog lunch. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. and the program starts at 10:30 a.m. Boys do not have to be an active Royal Ambassador to attend. However, boys must sign in at the registration desk the morning of the Congress. Pre-registration is due by March 30.

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

Father and Son Relationships Are Camp Focus

A special time is reserved at Camp Caraway for boys in grades 1–3 and their fathers (or grandfather, uncle or any adult male over 21). It's the Camp Caraway Father and Son Mini Camps. The cost is $42 per person which includes meals, lodging, program and a camp T-shirt. A ratio of one adult per three boys is required. The dates for the Father and Son Mini Camps are July 3–5, and July 6–8.

Most family experts agree that a major factor in the decline of the American family is a lack of quality time spent together. Increasingly, family members are struggling to find time for one another. The bond between a father and son is an especially important one. Boys need to have quality time just having fun with their fathers.

Each year, North Carolina Baptist Men provides such a time of nurturing at Camp Caraway through the two Father and Son Mini Camps conducted during the week of July the Fourth. Boys and their fathers can enjoy a fun-filled time of swimming, basketball, archery, canoeing, Bible study, and much more.

Early registration is important. For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Spring 1995, For additional information and registration, check the appropriate block and mail this back page (with the label) to: North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512-1107

TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

NCBM Hats @ $7 (p. 4)

❑ Black	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Teal	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Forest Green	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Burgundy	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

NCBM T-shirts @ $6 (p. 4)

❑ Adult medium	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult XX-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

RA T-shirts @ $6 (p. 4)

❑ Boys 14-16	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult small	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult medium	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

Challengers T-shirts @ $6 (p. 4)

❑ Boys 14-16	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult small	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult medium	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grant Total	$____

❑ UPCLOSE Audio Cassette (Free) (p. 4)
*Quantity*____

❑ Correctional Missions Conference (p. 7)
❑ Disaster Relief Expo (p. 7)
❑ Sports In Missions Opportunities (p. 8)
❑ Overseas Soccer Team (p. 8)
*Quantity of application forms needed*____
❑ Lay Renewal Gathering at Caraway (p.8)
❑ Legacy Builders Retreat (p. 9)
❑ August is 'Family Missions Month" (p. 9)
❑ Medical Assistance To Ukraine (p. 12)
❑ Rest Stop Ministry (p. 12)
❑ Camp Angel Tree (p. 14)
❑ Camp Caraway Registration Information (p. 14)
❑ State RA/Challengers Track Meet (p. 14)
❑ New Campcraft Skills (p. 15)
❑ 'Christian High Adventure' Schedule (p. 15)
❑ RA Congress (p. 15)
❑ Father and Son Mini Camps (p. 15)

TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCES

❑ Correctional Missions Conference, May 6, High Point (Cost: $10/person, includes lunch.) (*Pre-registration is necessary.*)
#____ persons @ $10 = Total $____

❑ Disaster Relief Expo, Apr. 22, Salisbury (*Registration deadline Apr. 7*) (Cost: $20/person for program, meal, and training) ($10/person for program and meal only) Lodging at Camp Caraway is limited. Contact NCBM office for reservations – $21.50/person (includes breakfast).
#____ persons @ $20 = Total $____
#____ persons @ $10 = Total $____
#____ persons @ $21.50 =Total $____ Grand Total $____

❑ Lay Renewal Gathering, May 5–6, Caraway (Cost: $35/person)
#____ persons @ $35 = Total $____

❑ Legacy Builders Retreat, Mar. 31–Apr. 1 (Cost: $35/person, includes lodging in cabins and three meals, insurance and program workbooks.)
#____ persons @ $35 = Total $____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

Registration Fee (if applicable) $_____ Number in group (if applicable) _____

(Make checks payable to North Carolina Baptist Men.)

Are you getting 'too many' copies of this newsletter? If you are getting multiple copies of this newsletter, please return this back page (with label), from each newsletter you received. Thanks!

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